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LASH - 1

19 March 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with AMWHIP-1 in New York City.
17 March 1965

Meeting Time/Place/Purpose:

1. The undersigned met AMWHIP-1 at the del Pezzo Restaurant, 33 West 47th St., at 1300 hours on 17 March for the purpose of briefing him on better telephone security while in Europe. Other operational matters as discussed below were broached.

Details of the Meeting:

2. In response to a request from Paris, AMWHIP-1 was given a security briefing for his trips to Europe. We paid particular attention to the need for security consciousness while telephoning his KUBARK contacts at the various embassies in Europe. We stressed France in particular as it had been this station which reported a certain laxity in AMWHIP-1's security practices in Paris. AMWHIP-1 appreciated the advice and guidance and said he would adhere to it in the future. He in turn stated he felt that "Roberto" should begin meeting him in more secure places than his hotel room, where apparently the majority of the AMWHIP-1/Roberto meetings take place. We stated we would take this up with Roberto in Paris prior to AMWHIP-1's projected trip during the week of 21 March.

3. It was also suggested to AMWHIP-1 that due to the sensitivity of the UNSNAFU-19 CA operation he was about to undertake, he forego meeting any KUBARK staffers in Europe during his forthcoming trip. He was told he should contact only Roberto in Paris since this had been specifically requested by Roberto and his meetings with Roberto should be kept to a minimum. Any information he

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obtained from his trip which could not be held until his return to New York could be given to Roberto in Paris for transmission to the undersigned at Headquarters.

Rafael Garcia Bango Dirube

4. AMWHIP-1 was asked if he knew Garcia Bango (GB) whom we described as a lawyer, 33 years old, who had just arrived in Madrid and claimed that he had a message obviously coming from AMLASH-1 or members of his group. AMWHIP-1 replied that he knew GB who had been a friend of AMLASH-1's for the past twenty years. AMWHIP-1 stated that GB was essentially a crook, and his assessment of GB corresponded pretty well with that forwarded in MADR 3486 (IN 24295). AMWHIP-1 stated it was possible, but not probable, that GB had been sent by the AMLASH group to convey the message as indicated in the forementioned MADR cable. AMWHIP-1 further stated he felt GB would be personally loyal to AMLASH-1 in spite of any DSZ suggestion to the contrary. (This again is a feeling which AMWHIP-1 had and is not to be taken as gospel.) He also mentioned the brother of GB, Jorge, on whom there are a number of traces at Headquarters.

5. AMWHIP-1 also discussed the contents of a letter received from AMLASH-2. The essential part of this letter plus a telephone call from AMLASH-3 from Madrid was that AMLASH-3 was somewhat upset by the fact that he was having difficulty in getting a visa for the U. S. and/or the Dominican Republic. AMWHIP-1 then spent considerable time discussing the treatment of AMLASH-2 and AMLASH-3 in Madrid by KUBARK. He said he felt that AMLASH-2 and AMLASH-3 should be contacted by KUBARK and treated and handled well. If this were done, they would both serve a very useful purpose for KUBARK ends both in Europe and in Cuba. The undersigned told AMWHIP-1 that we essentially agreed with his position and would take up the matter with our superiors when we returned to Washington. On the matter of the visa for AMLASH-3, we pointed out that we could not intercede for AMLASH-3 in either case because it would be compromising to him. To illustrate the point we explained that both governments knew that AMLASH-3 was a Captain in the Rebel Army and had up until recently been working actively for a ministry of the Cuban Government and therefore considered a Cuban official working in behalf of the Castro Government. As such AMLASH-3, or anyone in that position, would not be entitled to enter either country under normal circumstances. We pointed out that the Cuban Government in all probability knew of this; and, if AMLASH-3

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succeeded easily in entering either country, this would be a rather obvious indication to the Cuban DSE that AMLASH-3 must be cooperating with one or the other government. AMWHIP-1 accepted the explanation and felt it would be readily understandable and a good excuse to give to AMLASH-3.

6. AMWHIP-1 also talked at length on the subject of AMBIDDY-1 and AMLASH-1. He repeated his previous position that the marriage of AMBIDDY-1 and AMLASH-1 would brood no good, that an unnecessary number of people now know of AMLASH-1's plans, and that AMLASH-1 himself was very skeptical of the arrangement with AMBIDDY-1. Furthermore, as a result of this, he is somewhat unsure of his position vis-a-vis OUTOKL.

7. AMWHIP-1 said he would advise us of his exact departure date in the event we had any further instructions for him. The meeting terminated at 1520 hours. There were no incidences of a security nature to report.

William E. Wainwright
WH/C/PI/TC

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